

Moran Tours Construction of Fort Riley Veterans Cemetery

JUNCTION CITY - Congressman Jerry Moran, along with several public officials, today toured the construction of the Fort Riley State Veterans Cemetery that began last fall. The State of Kansas was awarded federal dollars through the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for the construction of the Fort Riley State Veterans Cemetery which will provide burial space for thousands of Kansas veterans.

"It is good to see the progress of the construction of the Fort Riley State Veterans Cemetery," Moran said. "Once complete, it will serve as much needed and honorable burial space for Kansas veterans."

Throughout the last several years, Moran has conducted meetings and held conversations with VA leaders about the importance of funding the Fort Riley State Veterans Cemetery. At Moran's request, the VA provided the initial grant in November 2007 so groundbreaking and construction could begin on the cemetery. The second and final grant that completed the total amount was awarded by the VA in March 2008.

The cemetery is located west of the Manhattan Regional Airport on 90 acres that were donated by Fort Riley. It includes space for approximately 10,000 burial sites. This is the fourth

state veterans cemetery in Kansas. The state veterans cemeteries provide space for burial for those who have served a term of active duty and been honorably discharged from the military, reserves or National Guard, as well as their dependents. The cemeteries are state-operated, and design and construction costs are paid for by the VA.

Moran is a senior member of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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